

Unit 4, Reading 1, p. 176

Answers from Laura

Getting a first idea about the article

- 3 Why did the Aral Sea change so much between the 1950s and 1990?
- 5 What were these catastrophic consequences?
- 6 What other effects did the Aral Sea region suffer?
- 8 What did this conference do about the Aral Sea?

While you read

The damage that poorly planned economic activity can have on the environment

Par.2 has no Cause and Effect Markers.

Par.3 Effect – had shrunk (line 1) and had become (line 2) are possible Cause and Effect Markers because they are verbs that describe a change.

Par.4 Cause – root cause (line 1)

Par.5 Effect – consequences (line 1)

Par.6 Effect – impact . . . consequences (lines 1-3)

Par.7 Effect – contaminating (line 2)

These massive changes

- 1. the Aral Sea had . . . and had become two separate lakes
- 2. total water volume had dropped . . . of its 1950s volume
- 3. The sea's salt content . . . 300 percent

Catastrophic for the area surrounding the sea

All of the following consequences are from Par.5:

- 1. Whole species of fish have died out
- 2. Commercial fishing . . . has practically stopped
- 3. The climate . . . has become more extreme
- 4. Rainfall has decreased
- 5. Summers have become shorter and warmer
- 6. No longer enough . . . for growing cotton
- 7. Forests . . . have dried up
- 8. Causing the loss . . . and mammal species
- 9. Salt . . . on the surrounding land
- 10. Increasing its salt content
- 11. Reducing its fertility

Reducing its fertility

The immediate consequences of falling water levels

Other short-sighted agricultural practices in the irrigated land include

- 1. inefficient methods of irrigation
- 2. farmers use more water . . . the Aral Sea itself.

Such measures

Massive changes in agricultural policy and practices

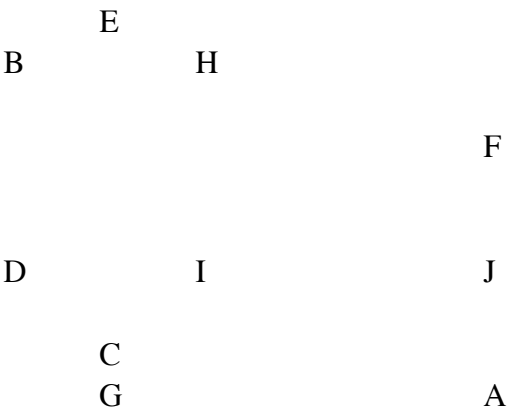
Main Idea Check

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A Closer Look

- 1. B --- D --- C --- E/A (or A/E)
- 2. A and D
- 3. Soil salinization (the accumulation of crop-damaging salts in the soil)
Anthropogenic desertification (the conversion of agricultural land to desert by environmentally destructive human activities)
- 4. False
- 5.



Vocabulary Study: Synonyms

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Ecology | 9. Artificial |
| 2. Negate | 10. Pesticides |
| 3. Basin | 11. Drain(s) |
| 4. Mean | 12. Vulnerable |
| 5. Shrunk | 13. Reverse |
| 6. Irrigation | 14. Unique |
| 7. Moderating | 15. Conversion |
| 8. Soil | |

Vocabulary Study: Words in Context

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Arid | 6. Measures |
| 2. Fertile | 7. Mortality |
| 3. Efficient | 8. Crop |
| 4. Climate | 9. Evaporate |
| 5. Roots | 10. Species |